

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 7, fourth full paragraph:

In the practical application of the present invention, the selection and degree of differentiation between the one or more characteristics may be arranged to ~~maximise~~ maximize the amount of point mis-registration between the two patterns. When point mis-registration is ~~maximized~~ maximized, the greatest degree of lamination occurs because the highest percentage of lamination points actually bond the first and second materials together. This advantageously increases the value of a laminate peel-apart strength characteristic.

Page 21, third full paragraph:

In between the finishing core 62 and the nip 54 of the second section 32, a printing device 64 is provided for printing the company identifier and/or a laminate descriptor onto the laminate. Also provided is a treatment device (not shown) which, when required, treats the laminate with a chemical for imparting specific qualities to the laminate 60, for example, the treatment chemical comprises a fire retardant or chemical protector. The laminate 60 passes over six rollers 66 which are arranged to form a tortuous path for the laminate 60 to travel through to reach the finishing core 62. Two of these rollers are motor-driven cooling rollers 68 provided in an s-shaped configuration. These rollers 66, 68 cool the laminate 60 ~~[[and]]~~ to allow it to set prior to collection on the finishing core 62.

Page 23, paragraph 3:

The lamination pattern 56 on the calender roll 50 is illustrated in Figure 7B and has a 19% contact area. The lamination pattern 56 comprises an array of square-shaped lamination points ~~[[55]]~~ with a pitch of approximately ~~[[1.75]]~~ 2.0 mm. As with the bonding pattern 41 of the embossed material 40, the lamination pattern 56 has orthogonal axes x, y which are each offset by 45° to the rotational axis R of the calendar roll 50. This pattern 56 is one of the most frequently used in the off-line lamination processes.

Page 24, second full paragraph:

Referring now to Figures 8A, 8B and 8C, a second embodiment of the present embodiment is now described. In this second embodiment, the lamination pattern 56 on the calender roll 50 and the bonding pattern 41 on the embossed material 40 have matching bond/contact areas but different pattern axes X, Y, x, y. This embodiment is useful in demonstrating how to implement the present invention when it is desired to ~~utilise~~ utilize two patterns 41, 56 which are nominally the same. In this case, these patterns 41, 56 can be sufficiently differentiated by simply turning the orthogonal axes X, Y, x, y of one of the patterns 41, 56 so that the bonding points 42 are not substantially coincident with the lamination points 55. As varying the lamination pattern 56 on the calender roll 50 would be an expensive implementation, it is more practical to vary the bonding pattern 41 on the embossed material 40 with knowledge of the lamination pattern 56 in order to achieve the ~~require~~ required differences. This is because the material can be supplied with a specified emboss pattern by a spunbond material manufacturer, and also the cost of providing the required difference between the patterns can be substantially borne by the spunbond material manufacturer.

Page 25, second paragraph:

Referring to Figures 9A, 9B, 9C, 10, 11 and 12, a third embodiment of the present invention is now described. One way in which this embodiment differs from the previous embodiments is that three materials are laminated together to form a desired three-ply laminate 60. The third material 80 is supplied in a similar manner in which the above described non-embossed material 43 is supplied, namely from a corresponding core with an appropriate number of unwinding and spreading rollers (not shown). This third material 80 (Figure 12) comprises an embossed lightweight (17 g/m^2) spunbond fabric.

Page 26, third full paragraph:

The effect of the lamination interaction between the two different patterns 41, 56 is further illustrated in Figure 11 which is a photomicrograph of the surface of the resultant laminate 60 taken at an angle to reveal three-dimensional aspects of the interference pattern 82. The lamination points 55 are visible as square-shaped depressions labelled [[B]] A while the bonding pattern 41 of the fabric 40 is visible by the reflected light of the circular-shaped bonding points 42 which are labelled [[B]] A on the surface of the fabric 40.

Page 32, third paragraph:

In the above ~~describ~~ described embodiments, the lamination pattern 56 on the calender roll 50 has not been changed. This is because of the comparatively high cost of replacing the calender roll 50 in order to differentiate between the embossed pattern and the lamination pattern 56, as compared to the option of specifying a different emboss pattern 41 on a material to be supplied by a spunbond material manufacturer. However, despite the significant cost differences between these two approaches, it is to be appreciated that the present invention is intended to cover the situation where the lamination pattern 56 on the calender roll 50 is selected and supplied to provide a desired difference between the embossing pattern and the lamination pattern 56.